

Application Serial No. 09/980,648

Amendment A

Page - 2 -

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Related Application paragraph beginning on page 1, line 4 as follows in marked-up form:

This application claims the benefit of United States provisional application Serial No. 60/243,195 filed 25 October ~~2001~~ 2000.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 18, line 8 as follows in marked-up form:

As Fig. ~~20~~ 10 shows, the physician may use the measuring device 24 to measure a component to be mixed, such as a powdered component for poly(methyl methacrylate) bone cement. The powdered component is poured into the receptacle 12. If the receptacle 12 bears a graduated scale 39 on its outer surface 33, the component can be added to the receptacle 12 until the desired level is reached. After the powdered component is added to the receptacle 12, another component, such as a liquid monomer for bone cement, is added.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 25, line 2 as follows in marked-up form:

Figures 24A, 24B, 25 and 26 depict various embodiments of mixing elements useful in conjunction with the previously-described closed mixing and transfer system. These mixing elements are particularly well suited to collapse and/or folding after mixing has been completed to facilitate advancement of the sliding seal 450 and dispensing of the PMMA mixture. More specifically, Figs. 24A and 24B depict views of a mixing element 16 comprising a series of sections ~~460~~ 462 which mix the PMMA components in response to rotation of the mixing element but, when compressed, desirably fold in an accordion-like fashion to allow advancement of the sliding seal 450 and dispensing of the PMMA mixture. Fig. 25 depicts a mixing element 16 comprising a helical section which mixes the PMMA components in response to rotation of the mixing element 16 but, when compressed, desirably compresses in a spring-like fashion to permit advancement of the sliding seal 450 and dispensing of the PMMA mixture. Fig. 26 depicts a mixing element 16 comprising a plurality of helical sections which operate in a similar fashion.